CLAIMS

No claims are amended, added, or canceled by this response. For the Examiner's convenience, a listing of all pending claims (including status identifiers) is provided below.

1. – 15. (Canceled)

16. (previously presented) A method for operating a manure conveyor device, comprising:

driving a first return roller, about which a manure conveyor belt circulates, at a first rotational speed;

driving a second return roller, about which the manure conveyor belt circulates, at a second rotational speed;

wherein during a first interval the first rotational speed exceeds the second rotational speed, and during a second interval the second rotational speed exceeds the first rotational speed.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the first return roller and the second return roller are driven in a same direction.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising driving the manure conveyor belt in a circulating manner underneath a manure-permeable floor.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the manure conveyor device is structured and arranged for use with livestock breeding operations.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising controlling the first rotational speed and the second rotational speed by frequency controllers.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising stopping the first return roller and the second return roller for a period of time between the first interval and the second interval.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the period of time is one to four minutes.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein:
during the first interval the first rotational speed is approximately 1.5 rpm, and
the first return roller has a diameter of approximately 90 to 110 mm.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein:
during the first interval the second rotational speed is approximately 1 rpm, and
the second return roller has a diameter of approximately 90 to 110 mm.

25. – 40. (canceled)

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein:
during the first interval the second rotational speed is approximately 1 rpm, and

the second return roller has a diameter of approximately 90 to 110 mm.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein:

the first return roller is driven with a first motor, and

the second return roller is driver with a second motor different from the first motor.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the first motor and the second motor comprise first and second electric motors, respectively.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the driving the first return roller and the driving the second return roller cause the manure conveyor belt to circulate in a trough.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the trough runs between a manure collection channel and a urine collection channel.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the driving the first return roller and the driving the second return roller cause a bottom half of the manure conveyor belt to slide on a plastic sheet.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the plastic sheet lies on a base of a trough.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the trough is watertight.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein during the first interval the first rotational speed is such that friction occurs between the first return roller and an underside of the conveyor belt and cleaning of the conveyor belt and the first return roller takes place.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein during the second interval the second rotational speed is such that friction occurs between the second return roller and the underside of the conveyor belt and cleaning of the conveyor belt and the second return roller takes place.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein during the first interval the first return roller runs more quickly than the conveyor belt whereby, through friction occurring between the first return roller and an underside of the conveyor belt, a cleaning of the conveyor belt and the first return roller takes place.